courage Mr. Russell from these endeavors

He has confidence in the Gotham public

even if the crities do give him the usual cold shoulder. He believes that under-

neath the frothy Bohemian population,

who have set the pace in New York amuse

ments, there is a domestic class who are

little in evidence, because plays to their liking are seldom offered. He hopes to

reach this class, It is the element that

in all other cities clamors for the humor of

The latest Sardon play is "Spiritisme

which was produced in New York two

weeks ago. It will come shortly to the

Lafayette. Anything written by the dean of French dramatists is bound to have

worth in some degree, but this piece is

eclipsed by the pre-eminence of its cast

which includes Maurice Barrymore, Vir.

ginta Harned, J. H. Gilmour, William F

Owen, Charles Harbury and Olive Oliver

Another event of importance the same week will be the presentation of a Charles

Klein play at the National, "Dr. Belgraff.

Klein has written "Heartsense" and "El

Lockaye is the star in this instance. Though

a Washingtonian he has grown into con

mopolitan eminence which entitles him

to register from New York. Mr. Luckaye has made a big success of his first starring

eason. But why shouldn't he? He is

fine actor and a strong card, his play is

by a prominent dramatist and his con

pany includes Marie Wainwright, C. W.

Couldock, Forrest Robertson, Alice Evans

Byron Douglas and Joseph Ailen among the

After several months of engaged bliss

t is to be hoped the period was blissful heengagement between Gerald Du Maurier

son of the late English author and artist and Marguerite Sylvin, an obscure lady it

Beertonin Tree's company, has been broke off. The first days of this betrothal wer

spent under the barren bashes in Lafayette

Park, last Thanksgiving time. The English company were playing at the marble

fronted theater. Rehearsn's of the Parker play were held day and night. Wheneve

and sat silent, holding hands, smiling

rapturously, and entirely oblivious to either

cold or those about them. That was be foreword had geached Mamma Du Maurier

of the promise that had been given while the ship was on the deep blue sea. Then letters came. The reams of paper used

by the Du Manner family and all their friends, beseeching Gerald not to marry

postage. Family pride seems to have prevailed, for the artist's son will not marry

the obscure Southern beauty. Or, perhaps

the fires of love have barned down to black

embers. They finned to fast at first-Between the time that they met, he asked

and she consented, there elapsed but four

days. It was all effected on the ocean

which mitigates the responsibilities, or

who can be held accountable for what they do when they are all at sea?

A joke is a joke, even when a critic is the

butt. A friend of the call by furnishes this:
"With a dramatic critic! strolled into the

Chicago Opera House on St. Valentine's

turn. The D. C. was vastly bornd. As the

curtain fell he turned to me and exclaimed

in a loud voice: 'She reminds me of a fe

There is a suggestion for reminiscence in

the splendid portrait posters which for the last ten days have descrated our bill-

boards by way of advising the public of the presence in town of "The Girl! Left

Behind Me." There is Lucy Hawksworth,

Miller's Ann. baying a flictation with Dr.

Penwick; Gen Kenyon, with the pistol at

his daughter Kate's brow, and S arbrow

and Fawn Afraid. And they are nearly all

pictures and good likenesses of popular

The originals of the poster pictures were the members of the cast when the play

was first produced on any stage at the

New National Theater, January 16, 1893.

to obscurity, and one has played his last

Frank Mordaunt was the Gen. Ken-

on. He has been here during the past

William Morris played Lieut

fortnight, playing Gen. Kentirick in "Mary

Hawksworth. Mr. Morris has successfully created the leading roles of "Los

Paradise" and "Men and Women," and

it was supposed four years ago that he

had a great future. But he has not done anything notable. He is at present play-

ing the leading part in a Blaney melodrama

"The Electrician." Nelson Wheateroft, who died less than a fortright ago, was

the Lieut. Parlow. Theodore Roberts who appeared here with "Sue," was the

first Scarbrow. The Lucy in the military frock was Odette Tyler, who has repeated

her success in another military drama "Secret Service." The Dr. Penwick was

Cyril Scott, now with the New York "My

Friend from India" company, and Kath

erine Florence, who made idvite the

character of Faun Afraid, now belongs to

the Lyceum Company, professionally, and to Fritz Williams matrimonially. Syd-

ney Armstrong was the Kate Kenyon. She

has retired from the stage.

The only star graduated from this cast

is Edna Wallace, now Mrs. De Wolf Hop

per. Sam Harrison, whose brother is Louis Harrison, prepared the public for

this piece through the press. By a coin

cidence, he spent last week here, while the

famous old piece was playing probably its

last times in this city. This time Mr Harrison is endeavoring to acquaint the

public with the superexcellence of Etienne

Girardot and "Miss Francis of Yale.

ectors who had not any connection

They are scattered now, some to fame,

the company here last week

part ever

Innd."

upon the hearers.'

impersonator! Imagine the effect

day, during Richard Harlove's interesting

leaders.

this deliciously quaint artist



Colombia-Creston Clarke in "The Last of His Race."

National-"Miss Francis of Yale." Lafarette-"The Old Homestead." Academy-"The Land of the Living." Grand-"The Span of Life." Pison-Billy Kersands and the Georgia

Kernan's-Irwin Brothers' Company.

Lillian Russell drops "An American Beauty" presently to begin rehearsals with Della Fox and Jefferson De Angelis, a pattnership now familiarly known as pattnessiap now familiarly known as lone," the ofe failure of all. Joe Murphy "the triple alliance." There was a wide diversity of opinion as to the merits of Gow," and its own personality made poputhe opera, though all agreed that Lillian | lar the title parts. Billy Scanlan wrote all retained her beauty. Some raved over the his own plays, and he wrote the songs as piece, some raved against it. There seemed to be no middle ground. But the theater was packed nightly and Lillian looked ingenuously into the bright eye of the calcium tank and was imppy. Negotiations are now pending looking to the replacement of Miss Russell by Pauline Hall when the original beauty leaves to join the triple alliance. Miss Hall is a storning looking woman, or was before retirement, and the part is such a one as she would appear in to especial advantage. But I am inclined to think that Russell and not the opera was the magnet for all the money that rolled into the Columbia till last week

Two of our principal theaters have novel ties for us this week. The fame of the "Beauty" and "Maryland" had preceded them, but the glories of "The Last of His Race" and "Miss Francis of Yale," have not yet attracted widespread attention. That is because they are both of recent production. Mr. Clarke has not had his play on but three weeks, and the Morton farce was hammered into shape on the road previous to giving it a metropolitan prendere last Monday in Baltimore. criticism as I have been able to find speak well of both pieces. Creston Clarke is an intellectual gentleman of good judgment and theatergoers have confidence in him. The prencipal players in "Miss Francis of Yole," have personal or professional asso-ciation with Washington. There is La viola Sharmon (Mrs. Giles Shine), who ever claims this city as home, and Etienne, the tittle Facishman with the French name, Is known to us for his comic anties as the student who masqueraded as "Charley's

By the way, the press agent for "Miss of overauxiety to enwent me an item saving that Michael Morton is a brother of Martha Morton, "and of Hugh Morton nutbor of 'An American I am inclined to think that he thought this without thinking. Hugh Moston is merely the nom de theater for one Mr. McClellan, who started "Town on its journalistic career. Mar the and Michael are the only ones of their own family at present known as drama-

The Lafagette has the familiar New England drama, "The Old Homestead." is ennounced as being on its farewell tour. The Academy has "The Land of the Living," and the Grand presents. "The Span of Life." Both of these pieces are of the mellov est species of melodrama. The virtues of the beroes and beroines are war ranted all wood and a pard wide, and such pacce is equipped with a villain with the quintessence of wickedness dis-

Bills Kersands is on deck at the Hijou Billy is the only man in the profession who is more easily recognized by the inside of his mouth than by the outside. He once told an interviewer that that was the only way he recognized his friends in the madience. They laughed so hard all the while he was on that he had become an expert at distinguishing people by the inof their mouths. The Georgia Min etreis are with B. K.

The Itwin Bros ' Specialty Company is Kernan's bill. The people of this organ-tration are well-known to Lyceum patrons.

his authorship of "The Last of His Race." This is not modesty, it is merely diplomacy He is posing as an actor, not as a dramatist However, this latter title sug gests some interesting consideration. Apparently few actors are dramatists; only apparently, for, as a matter of fact, a great many players have made mays Dion Boocicault first wrote plays for himmelf, and wrote so much better than he acted that he eventually wrote only for others. Charley Hoyt has often acted in own pieces, though he did not write them forbinself. Maurice Barrymore wrote "Najesda" for Modjeska when he sepported her, and the piece was a creditable effort. The memory of his second effort "Roaring Dick" is too green for comrocat Mansfield is another actor who couldn't diagnose his own case. His "Don Juan" was a miserable finsco. Arthur Bouchier tried his hand with "The Chile Widow," but it was poor stuff.

An actor, it would seem, should write the very best acting plays in the world. His constant association with the actualiof stageland; his acquaintance with the best effect producers; his knowledge of the craftiness of this art, all suggest that his experience, if not his intuitions and imagination, would equip him as ; maker of drama, not in the actor's eyes barren of words, but pregnant in action, moving, concise, full of effects, practical operation, and devoid of any techincal or literary superfluities.

Though Barrymore, Boucher and Mans field have failed at this, others, many othets, have secceeded. Strangely, however, there are only five instances, granting Mr. I theater patlor cars, which are furnis

luxuriously, and are designed to acc date theater parties. The cars are very

We are to have more first-nights next The play-natchers have kept clear of this estimable dog town since the wreckage of "Roaring Dick" landed on Gotham But there is no occasion for prejsands. udice. Washington's judgment and Washington's mascot are both all right, and all that a play needs to bound into success off our spring-board is to deserve The Columbia will be the nursery of one of the new pieces, and it will be the first experience of this little theater with a first-night which is a first-night otherwise, to borrow from the French, a The date of this interesting event is set for April 12.

The new piece is a three-act piece, "The Mysterious Mr. Bugle," by Madelaine Lucette Ryley, who wrote "Christopher, Jr." for John Drew and "An American Citizen" for Nat Goodwin. Mrs. Ryle yought to write a good farce. In the "Citizen" her best act was the inimitable third, where she threw sentiment to the winds and waded neck high in farcical lines and situations. Her sentiment was the weaker portion of the piece. I imagine her penchant has alalways been for unadulterated comedy, but she was writing for comedians who naturally demanded sentiment and pathos to make their audiences weep, simply because their professional purpose is to make them laugh. So Mrs. Ryley will doubtless give her original talents full swing in the farce, and we may expect something quite worth while. Mr. Joseph Holland will play the principal part, which, I believe, is not Mr. Bugle. Miss Annie Russell will be Mrs. Bugle, and Mr. Guy Standing will be in the cast. Miss Russell and Mr. Standing were here last in "Suc." The event is five weeks away, but that only gives us the more opportunity to work up our enthusiasm.

The Lafayette will have the other premier, and, sad to say, it will come off on the same night as the other piece, Easter Monday. This is giving a little too much of a good thing. This is not the Lafa yette's first experience as a dramatic nursery. Last season it sent "The Lady Slavey" to a career of credit, and this season Beerbohm Tree first gave Gilbert Parker's "Seats of the Mighty' at Manager Albaugh's bouse the night after Thanksgiving. The new piece in question is called "For a Title." The author's name has not yet been dis closed, but the piece will not be given anony mously. This piece cames in connection with an interesting bit of news. The play will be produced by Rhea, who has a rrapped with Mr. Albaugh for a spring supplementary season of four weeks, two in this city and two in Baltimore. It is said that another new play will be produced during this engagement. Manager Magee will augment his present company for this engagement, and is now negotiating with several wellknown players. It is his intention to make this supplemental season a busy one. The new productions will be elaborately staged under the personal direction of Joseph M. Francosur, who added to the artistic achievement of Julia Marlowe and the late Alexander Salvini when their stage director. Mile Rhea will spend her summer abroad, as is her custom, while Mr. Mages will combine work and pleasure on his new yacht now being built

As his route had a vacancy jesterday and the day before, Creston Clarke reached the city yesterday. Mr. Clarke is an interesting talker, and no one engages it conversation with him that he doesn't benefit intellectuality or in spirits. Speaking of appreciation for plays, he told me this yesterlay afternoon.

"There is a common saying which is often used in our business when a good play does plays of great popularity and long life, not make money, that the public is unappreciative. Now this is not to my way of benking, and I will have to go on record as opposed to the views of those people who contend that ordinary persons are incapable of criticising a new play suc cessfully. The American people are very wise. An incident occurred during our presentation of "The Last of His Eace," at Harrisburg, which has firmly convinced me, no matter how little education a per son has got, by appealing to the instincts. and engrossing the mind in interest and study, invariably produces manifestations

of intellectuality The Indians who attend the government school at Carlisle, after being at the institution for a walle become doclle, and it is necessary to take them on an outing for a number. On arriving at Harrisburg, the first things that caught the eyes of the boys were the twenty-eight sheets an given allowing a visit to see the play balcony where a good view of the stage was obtainable

"As the orchestra ceased playing and ment a pin could be heard in lines of the drama so absorbed the people while before their interest was apparent plauded by the Indians as the other sepo-

Some time ago a suggestion appeared in hese columns about the avidity with which Washington seized good things and the persistency with which it neglected poor things theatrical, and the idea has taker root in at least one spot. In all probability Sol Smith Russell will appear in Washington for two weeks next season. That, at least, is his present plan, as outlined by the comedian Thursday last He had come over from Baltimore to see the Library and the Corcoran gallery which the crowds and engagements of inauguration week had compelled him to neglect. As he expressed it: "I had to go over to Baltimore to see Washington. Mr. Russell's plans for next year are very pretentious. He will play a reper-toire of five bills. This will include "A Bachelor's Romance," "Peaceful Valley," revivals of "The Heir-at-Law, and "The Rivals" and a triple bill. The triple bill will be interesting; it will open with "Mr. Valentine's Christmas," which we saw last year with the dreadful Every

second piece will be "Kathurine and Petruchio," condensed from "The Taming of the Shrew." The ambitious actor says he will have not only the most prethe troupe with \$4.40. The managers of the opera house were two young business men, who promptly discharged the telltale janitor and tendered Manager Richards the \$88. He absolutely refused to take it, antious company he can secure, but he but that night the house managers put will have the largest. In size it will be extravagant. There will be certain people engaged for certain parts, so that chased eighty-eight \$1 tickets to the si and put them in the ticket box, so that Richards might get his money back. Ever since then the members of the company there will not only be changes of till, had changes of cash, at least, in the usire important parts. Scenery and costumes will be carried for everything. have been endeavoring to figure out where they come in." It is sincerely to be hoped that the New York engagement next full will not dis

Helena Modjeska has appeared for the ast time on the public stage. This is asserted by her permission, and it is constituted a sad fact by the return of her illness, which last year nearly took her life.

She was to play in Cincinnati the week of January 20. On Monday she was stricken no one was bart. Vivian Burnett's opera down with a trouble which the physicians learnedly called plegmasia thrombo-phicbitis. The gravity of the illness was in proportion to the dignity of the name. Her right shoulder and arm swelled abdor-mally, and she could not move without pain. After a few days it became evident that only a protracted rest could restore the | not work perfectly, it would seem. The

cose it would break in on a weekly attraction. You probably didn't know that Anna Held returns to Europe next Wednesday. Lizzie Macnichol, of this city, is singing contraito roles with the stock opera company in Philadelphia. Robert Ingersoll calls his new lecture "Truth." A Boston gir sent Waiter Jones a cabinet photograph of Sonsa, to remind him that his imitation for his class society in Harvard is called "Fool's Gold." Robert Edeson, the hand-

when she stars.

The anti-hat ordinance in Chicago does

hence exactly. He finds Washington a

good Sunday night concert city, and the booking agent doesn't know of so many

that he can afford to give up those behas. Besides, Manager Albauga might not find

it convenient to give Sousa any other night

Capitan's" book, and he is writing plays for other important producers. Wilton an idle moment afforded it, Gerald and Marguerite stole over onto a park seat, "below his station," effected a handsome gain to the English exchequer in excess

HELENE MODJESKA.

great actress to working condition. Her other night at the Albambra in that city season was canceled and she went to her California ranch. She remained there until the early part of this new year, when she went up to Frisco and appeared again in spoken to her. This episode is also interher old repertoire. The season was testy, and it was feared that she might not be able to stand the strain. The fear was not unfounded. She was compelled to retire last week to her ranch, and she says

she will never act again.

The stage loses a great artist, past her prime, but rich in experience and judgment and honorable in maturity. Madame Modjeska was a native of Poland, where she was born in 1844. She first achieved fance in Europe, but has been identified with the history of the American stage during the past twelve years. She is a woman of artistic instincts and practical judgment Her conceptions have always conformed to the idyllic, but they have been tempered with scholarly correctness. She is and never has been, an actual beauty, but the contour and lines of her face dis close refinement, intellectuality, and a sweetness indicative of the woman's character. Her presence has always been commanding. She speaks the English lan-loveable personality, has become a classic sighting her soldier lover across the plains; guage correctly, but with a suggestion of foreign accent, which has proven an actual

charm to her auditors. Modjeska is best remembered as the Snakespearian heroines of comedy-Ross lind Beatrice and Portin-though her Lady Macbeth is universally conceded on impressive creation. Mary Stuart is inseparately connected with her career. She has sometimes played the French ex-Camille and Adrienne Lecoureur Her greatest success in modern character ization has, however, been in Suder-mann's "Magda." Many competent ndges who have seen her and Bernhardt and Duse in this play award to Modjeska first place. It was she who first made this powerful but unpopular play known to us, and her characterization has been universally commended as an exquisite realization of this difficult and intricate

How ill she is at present has not been reported. Her sickness is the recurrence of the old trouble. It is to be hoped that many years stretch out before this gracious woman, for the enjoyment of the har vests of a busy career, and the satisfac tion of a generation's plaudits, which are hers.

Augustin Daly is about to produce the play in which Charlotte Cushman and Janauscheck achieved fame under the title of "Mer Merriles." Mr. Duly has not again renamed the play in three days.

Arthur Wing Pinero, the eminent English playwright, is reported this compliment. unusual in one of his nationality, to Amer ican actresses: "It is impossible for me to express sufficiently my admiration for American actresses. They are so bright and so receptive of your wishes! I tiank they have a great future on the ", endon stage. The American stage has the edvantage of ours in one respect, namely, in the dear and distinct pronunciation of their artists."

Several new pieces were given active life last week. The most important production was, that given by the Lyceum Company, of "The Mayflower," a new unhistorical play of the Maxflower period, by Louis N Parker, one of the authors of "Rosemary." It was conceded the best piece the Ly ceum Company has had this season. At the Garrick, in New York city, a company of omedians, headed by E M. Holland, pro duced a farce from the French, called Never Again." One critic said it proved so funny and enjoyable that it should be part which is said to give him ample op-rechristened "Ever Again," for it is portunity to display his unusual ability likely to last that long. Robert Mantell as a romantic actor. Trained as he has gave, in Philadelphia. "A Gentleman from been in the most artistic companies of both Gascony," a play of the Henri of Navarre period, by Bicknell Dudley. It is well spoken of. In Hartford a burlesque with a pretentious cast Was tried first and goes to Boston for a run tomorrow. It is called | Louis, is said to have created a master 'The Star Spangled Dollar." I am not informed what success attended this pro-

third transcontinental tour," as the rhe-torical press agent puts it, "ocean to ocean, gulf to gulf." The popular band-

a woman in a front seat, who was requested to remove her hat, not only refused, but drew a razor and slashed the officer who had esting from the peculiar nature of the weapon used.

One of the brightest sketch teams seen in Washington this season was Clifford and Buth at the Lyceum last week. Their sketch was conceived and executed with originality and special talent. Rich & Harris have engaged this team to replace May Irwin, and John Rice in "Courted into Court" next season, and they are not mis taken in their choice.

THIS WEEK'S PLAYS

"Near to Nature's Heart" is the epigram reply which an appreciative pomakes in explanation of its toyalty to Denman Thompson's famous play, the "The Old Hemestead," which appears at the Lafayette this week Joshua Whit-comb, the kindhearted, rosy-faced New character in drama, and in the bands of Archie Boyd is given a well-r personation, although an entirely uncon ventional one. Scarcely less interesting than Mr. Boyd's Uncle Josh is Miss Marte Kimball's Aunt Matilda, of that tpye of England apinster whom Miss Mary E. Wilkins has made so copular Miss Kimball, together with the other members of the company, constitutes what is known as the original organization Prime is inimitable as protrayed by Will M. Cressy; Happy Jack, thetra Fred Clare, Eb Ganzy, by J. L. Mergan; Rickety Ann. by Blanche Dayne; Resher Whitcomb, by E. F. Gorman, and Seth Perkins, by Charles H. Clark. The other characters find careful and clever delin eation. Incidental to the play will be the singing of the original double quartet of male voices and "The Old Homestead" cheir. "Miss Francis of Vale" is the title of

be the attraction at the New National pair without being once detected very slimax of rollicking humor; the fever left also, and was heard to remark to her heat of fan from start to finish, with the talented author's professional hand always on the patient's pulse-not delirium, but healthful distraction. It is from the pen of Michael Morton, a New York literateur who belongs to a family of successful playwrights, being a brother of Miss Martha Morton. In "Miss Francis of Yale, 'Mr. Mortonia said to have every ea farcical play entirely out of the path, which deals with the love of a young ollegian who gets into all sorts of dif ficulties on account of the mistaken dentities which are the natural of the blunders of a strong-minded chaperone, who, by accident, first sees the collegian at his college rooms in company with other students who are prepared and dressed for the college theatrical entertuinment to occur that night. The con pany is excellent, and is the same as will shortly present the play in New York. It includes the names of Etienne Girar dot, Richard C. Bennett, Nick Long, Harry L. Kenne, Edward J. Mack, Zenaide Williams, Gertrude Homan, Sarah Mc Vicker, Lavinia Shannon, Idalene Cotton

In "The Last of His Race," the new re namic drama in which Creston Clarke makes his appearance at the Columbia The ater tomorrow night, Mr. Clarke has a hemispheres, and with the dramatic instinct inherent by birth, as a nephew of Edwir Booth and a son of John S. Clarke, in this play, as the old Prince Okolski and the lover piece. The play is a purely romantic story and tells a tale of love, as do all such plays, and deals with an interesting story of a long-lost son who is at last restored to his rights as the last of a princely race. The time of the play being the Marie An tomette period, gives opportunity for a hitherward on "their tenth triumphal and lavish display of costuming and scenery, all of which has been taken advantage of

The attraction at the Academy thi

week will be the latest melodramatic cess, "The Land of the Living," from the pen of Frank Harvey, the English playwright, author of "Woman Against Woand many other well known and successful "The Land of the Living" touches upon the past, present and future of characters, the counterparts of which we meet every day. Human nature abounds at every furn. It tells a powerful tale of country and city life, and though at times, when the opportunity arrives, borders very much upon the extreme sensational, there is nothing inconsistent or unnatural in the production. The scenes are picturesqua in the extreme, and take place in London and South Africa. The story of the play concerns the fortunes of Gerald Arkwright: Reuben Tredgold loves Arkwright's wife He rulns Araweight and tries to kill him in the diamond mines of South Africa. some and efficient juvenile of the Empire stock, will be Maude Adams' leading man, he returns to England, and teiling Mrs. Arkwright that her husband is dead out to marry her, when Arkweight turns up.

> "The Span of Life" comes to the Grand Opera House this week. The play takes its name from an exciting and novel incident that occurs in the last act. The scene is in the African gold country. The vilains have destroyed a bridge that spans a certain raging cataract, knowing that it is the hero's only escape from their clutche Among those in his party are three old friends, formerly acrobats in the circus. When it is discovered that the villata and his minious are coming, these friends of the hero put their knowledge of aerobatic business to good use. The tailest and strongest stands on the very brink of the anyon, another acrobat stands on his shoulders, and a third on the shoulders of the second, thus forming't tower some fif-teen or sixteen feet high. The signal is given, and this column of human beings falls so that the top man grasps a tree on the other side of the chasm, and a bridge of bodies is then formed, over which the here with his wife and child pass to the other side in safety. While this is but one of the strikingly sensational features to be seen in "The Span of Life," it is certainly without precedent in plays that have been given upon the stage.

A critic, in speaking of Billy Kersands, says: "He is enough to drive the dys-pepsia entirely out of the system. His nouth is certainly his fortune." Another ays. "He is always funny, because he is built that way, and not simply for the \$75 a week he can make out of his drollery." He has been with the Georgia Minstrels for the past eleven years. Pre-vious to that he was with "Callender's Georgia," and "Jack" Haverly's "Big Black 40." It was with Callender's that he went to England and made the hit of his life, and returned to that country with the "Georgias," under the management of Frohman. It was a clean-cut performance from start to finish, and the patrons of the Bljon Theater will have a chance to judge of their merits this week. The "Great Jalvan" is a feature of their per-formance, as is also the Crescent City Quartet, seen three seasons ago with A. M. Palmer's "Alabama" company.

The passing of each weekly bill of bignclass and always diverting variety at the Lyceum Theater, finds a substitute as good or better, and the show for this week will be no exception to the rule. Irwin Broa. Burlesquers, in conjunction with their big Specialty Company of European and American novelties, will hold the boards for one week, and judging from the long list of fuvorites on the program, the house ought to be well filled at every perform ance. Fred Irwin, this season has gathered about him the highest-priced company he has ever had. The burlesque of this show will be a latte out of the ordinary One of the features of the burlesque will be the five de Barrison Sisters. On account of the five famous Barrison Sisters terminating their successful engagement at Koster & Bal's Mask Hall, New York, and returning immediately to Europe, the theatergoers of other cities have been deprived of an opportunity of witnessing one of the most novel and performances ever presented. Mr. Irwin. remining the number of playgoers who are anxious to see these five famous women. has secured five beautiful and talented actresses, who, for the past four weeks, have been making a special study of this now famous sketch, and at each perfor ance this week they will give an accurate and unerring initation of the whole act

The Crystal Maze, at 427 Seventh street orthwest, is really a most funny place A few days ago a lady with a friend bought tickets and went in the Maze. Once inside they started to enjoy the fun of it, when all at once the lady was heard "Look, quick, to say to her companion: there is my husband with Miss -I want to watch him without being sechthe went to one of the guides employ the Maze, and drawing out a dollar bill from her purse, wild to the aftendant: The you see that man with that young lady? I want to watch him without be ing seen by hun. Can you take me around so I can bear and see what he does and says without being seen by him? If you can I will give you this dollar." The guide smilingly took the bill and guided the ladies for over twenty minutes so skill fully through the corridors, that she was the latest farcical production which will constantly in hearing distance of the sorrow night. It is described as the the gentleman and young lady left, she companion while walking through the lobby of the Maze: "I will teach him taking that - - out to places of amusement." Our advice to married gentlemen is, therefore, not to take young ladies to the Mare without looking around first to see whether their wives are not at the same time there, as every one in Washington is now going to see the Crystal Maze.

The Widow Won Him, (From the New York Herald.)

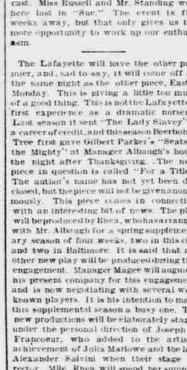
Because Frederick M. Meyer could not marry two women at once he is held by Magistrate Kudlich in the police court. Louisa Scherer, twenty-four years old, says Meyer paid attention to her for several months and they became engaged. February 21 was set for the wedding day, and she says he deceived her. She bought a trousseau, partly furnished a flat, and on the day selected all was in readiness for the ceremony. The guests were there and the supper ready, but Meyer

did not arrive. A messenger came at last with a note from the delinquent one, in which he said he thought he was under more obligation to marry another woman. Miss Scherer immediately distributed the guests and that night retained a lawyer.

next morning she obtained a wa Miss Scherer took Defective McCarthy to the flat of Mrs. Beign, with Meyer hourded, and was told that they had gone to Brooklyn together. Me-Carthy went back at 6 o'clock and Mrs. Beign, who had returned, told him Meyer was still out. The detective returned at 9 o'clock, obtained an entrance and, disclosing his identity, demanded to be taken to Meyer. This time he found the man.

The prisoner told the detective that e could not marry Miss Scherer, became he was under more obligations to Mrs. Beiga and was going to marry her.

\$1,25 to Baltimore and Seture Via B & O. R. R. All trains March 13 and 14. valid for return passage until followmb12-3t ing Monday.



CRESTON CLARKE. marvelous faculty for touching the popular heart. They were absolute monarchs in their realms while their reigns lasted.

instance of the higher class occurs to me

in Edwin Milton Royle, whose "Friends" notably popular as acted by himself.

These are the exceptions, however. One must go to the popular-priced houses to find

the author-actor in all his glory. Many of

these men, who have appealed to the simple

emotions and primitive instincts of the

less cultivated classes have made not mere

Ned Harrigan for years owned the middle and lower classes of New York with his

own dramas of low life in the metropolis. His list of plays is long and rends gloriously

down to the end, where, by a strange fling

of fate, we find it colipsed in "Marty Ma

well. Joe Emmett was author as well as

actor of all the Fritzes. These men had a

y fortures, but fame enduring.

McKee Rankin appealed to a class a fraction above the others with his "Panstill a strong stock piece, and his "Canneks," but in "True to Life" he approaches more nearly to the sensation loving. Denman Thompson is well known as the actor and author of "Joshua Whitcomb" and "The Old Homestead," two because both of them contained elements of pealed to all parts of any theater. Oliver Dowd Byron made a name for himself as an actor and an author with his "Across the Continent," a play thoroughly ad mirable judged in the light of technical development at the time It was written His heritage of popularity from this piece sustained him in many other less commendable efforrts

The balance of the list is short. It in cludes Waiter Sanford, who has written all hisown melodramas, the most famous of which was "My Jack;" Duncan Harrison, who wrote "Honest Hearts and Willing Hands' and "The Man From Beston" for John L. Sullivan. Though the puglist was nominally the star Harrison, who was his leading man, did all the acting: Lillian Lewis is a woman of nervous energy and self-belief, who acts out her own writings, the latest sample of which was "An Innocent Sinner," which the very few who saw it will never forget, for reasons ob-

vious to themselves.
It is a familiar saying that a good actor is good for nothing else. In the main, this istrue, but a man gifted with the genius for dramatic expression in action is favored of Providence, and is no more an anomity than the parsons who are not surgeons of the authors who cannot so much as manage their own finances, or the doctors who are totally ignorant of law or theology Actors often make efforts to diverge from their confined line. Their superfluous en ergy naturally seizes upon what is most familiar to them and most practical. This is either to write plays or to manage. The actor-manager has been a success in Eng-Lond; he is a failure here. Wilson Barrett is the only conspicuous foreign success as actor-author, whereas so many of our play ers have distinguished themselves in this hyphenated profession. If any deduction is to be drawn from this evidence, it is that the English actor is a practical person, and the American is more imaginative creative and artistic. The American is more consistent to the inexactitude of his

art.

The last ten days have been particularly had for the ladies of the profession. The many who wanted to see Mrs. Carter at the Lafayette last week know of her break down. The Saturday before I was at th Academy, Madame Jannuscheck was kept out of the bill by finess, and one of the men of the company donned her petticoats and played Frau Rosenbaum. Lillian Rus sell had not been able to play for severaevenings before she opened at the Columbia last Monday, and those who saw "A: American Beauty" after the opening night found Catharine Linyard doing acrobati surprises which illness prevented at the opening. Kathryn Kidder fainted away in Newark last week: Meiba and Eames left the Metropolitan Opera Company recently on account of Illness; Odette Tyler had to relinquists her part in "Secret Service" tenporardy last week; Caroline Miskel Hoyt disappointed several Harlemandiences wee before last, and so it goes. Fortunatel all this illness was merely temporarily, and the dear indies are now restored to health and the audiences are restored to happiness

The people of Brooklyn enjoy solid com fort when they go to the theater. Theetree car companies have placed at their disposa

expedition to erase from their mods as far as possible the recollections of borde The legislature of Pennsylvania was convened for the purpose of electing a successor to Senator Cameron, a political contest for supremacy between Senator Quay and the followers of John Wanamaker. Theinstructors at the Carlide school thought it a good idea to send a delegation of the hove to the convention and secured seats nouncing a presentation of "The Last of His Race." Their conclusion imme-diately convinced them that the title of the play implied a relationship to them. Nothing would satisfy until assurances were Seats were secured in the first row of the the curtain was rung up, fully one-half arose to give vent to their approval. a band of Sioux Indians, the beautifu

For a me any part of the house, and as the Indian boys sank in their seats, apparently disappointed by not being confronted with around them that it was only a little and the climaxes were as liberally aptators. When the curtain finally rang down on the last act, they applauded vociferously. Yes, everybody with unimnaired intellect is capable of being a critic.

Day Man;" a farce will close it, and the

Biff Hall, the Mirror correspondent i Chicago, is expected in the city this week. He is one of the beststory-tellers associated with the profession, and one of his best is on Manager Richards, of the Georgia Minstrels. Says Justice Biff: "It is a well-known fact that O. E. Rich ards, who has managed the Georgia Min strels for twenty-five years, has a habit of paying off his people every Sunday, and then "shooting craps" with them until all are broke. In Tennessee they have a very strict law against gambling, and when the company was playing in the little town of Cleveland in that State some years ago Manager Richards adpaidsalaries and was in one of the dressing-rooms indulging in his favorite pastime with 'the bones,' when the janitor of the theater discovered what was going on. Now, it appears that this janitor had a brother who was city marshal, and his salary was in the shape of fees paid for every arrest and conviction The janitor straightway informed his brother what was going on, and he came around and arrested Manager Richards and his whole company. They were fined \$2 and costs each, making a total of \$88 for the twenty people. These fines Richards paid, and then he charged each member of | master will be in Washington four weeks

The bugle blasts of Courier Strine are sounding over the hills to remind us that Sousa and his fifty men are marching